

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-5 and 8 are pending herein. Claims 6, 7, 9 and 10 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer, and claims 1, 2, 4, 5 and 8 have been amended hereby. More specifically, claims 1 and 2 have been rewritten merely to correct minor matters of form and for clarification purposes only, and claims 4, 5 and 8 have been rewritten in independent form. Applicant respectfully submits that no new matter has been added.

1. Examiner Nguyen is thanked for courtesies extended to Applicant's representative (Nicole Buckner) during a telephonic interview on December 20, 2004, the substance of which is incorporated below.
2. Applicant affirms the provisional election made with traverse on November 19, 2004 to prosecute claims 1-5 and 8 in the present application. The non-elected claims have been cancelled hereby without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicant presently intends to file a divisional application to pursue the subject matter of the non-elected claims, and thus reserves the right under 35 USC §121.
3. Applicant appreciates Examiner Nguyen indicating that claims 1-3 are allowed. In addition to allowed claims 1-3, Applicant respectfully submits that all claims pending herein are in condition or allowance, and respectfully requests that a Notice of Allowance be issued for this application in due course.
4. The objection to claims 4, 5 and 8 is noted, but deemed moot in view of rewritten claims 4, 5 and 8 submitted above.

During the telephonic interview, Applicant's representative argued that claims 4, 5 and 8 properly further limit the invention of independent claim 1 by narrowing the scope of the independent claim from which they depend. Further, since independent claim 1 is allowed, Applicant's representative argued that dependent claims 4, 5 and 8 should likewise be allowed.

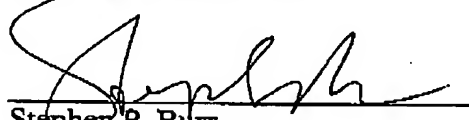
Examiner Nguyen tentatively agreed that claims 4, 5 and 8 would be allowed if these claims were rewritten in independent form, and claims 4, 5 and 8 have been so rewritten.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully requests that the above objection with reconsidered and withdrawn, and submits that all claims pending herein are in condition for allowance.

If Examiner Nguyen believes that contact with Applicant's attorney would be advantageous toward the disposition of this case, he is herein requested to call Applicant's attorney at the phone number noted below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1446.

Respectfully submitted,


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February 28, 2005
Date

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